(b) if so, whether any such unit is proposed to be set up in Orissa;

(c) whether Government have also a proposal to expand the existing cement units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (d) There is no proposal in the Ninth Plan to set up new cement plants or expand the existing plants in the Central Public Sector including Orissa.

Performance of Tea and Coffee Industury

1848. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to review the performance of tea and coffee industry in the country;

(b) if so, the production and export of tea and coffee during last three years; and

(c) the prospect thereof in 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government and the respective Commodity Boards review the performance of tea and coffee industry from time to time. The production and export of tea and coffee during the last three years were as follows:—

Year	Tea (in Mn. Kgs)		Coffee (in Metric Tonnes)	
	Production	Export	Production	Export
1996-97	775.31	169.04	205000	181295
1997-98	838.02	211.26	228000	179059
1998-99	850.25	205.19	265000	211623

(c) The estimate of production and export of Tea and Coffee during 1999-2000 is as follows:—

Year	Tea (in Mn. Kgs)		Coffee (in Metric Tonnes)	
	Production	Export	Production	Export
1999-2000	825.00	180.00	282000	210000

Import of Marble

1849. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government took a policy decision sometime back to allow import of marble under OGL;

(b) if so, how many licences were issued for import after the declaration of this policy;

(c) what quantity of marble was imported and whether it affected the Indian marble industry in any way;

(d) how much foreign exchange was involved till date in marble import; and

(e) what are Government's plan to protect the interest of Indian marble industry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Marble in various forms and its products, as classified under Exim Code Sub-heading 25.15 and 68.02 of ITC (HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items 1997-2002, are permitted to be imported against surrender of Special import Licence, subject to specified minimum import prices. These special import licences are obtained by the importers from the market. No licences for import of marble and marble products are required to be issued by the Government.

(c) to (e) Total quantity of marble and marble products imported under Exim Code sub-headings 25.15 and 68.02 during the period